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Peace Corps FY 1985 Annual Report

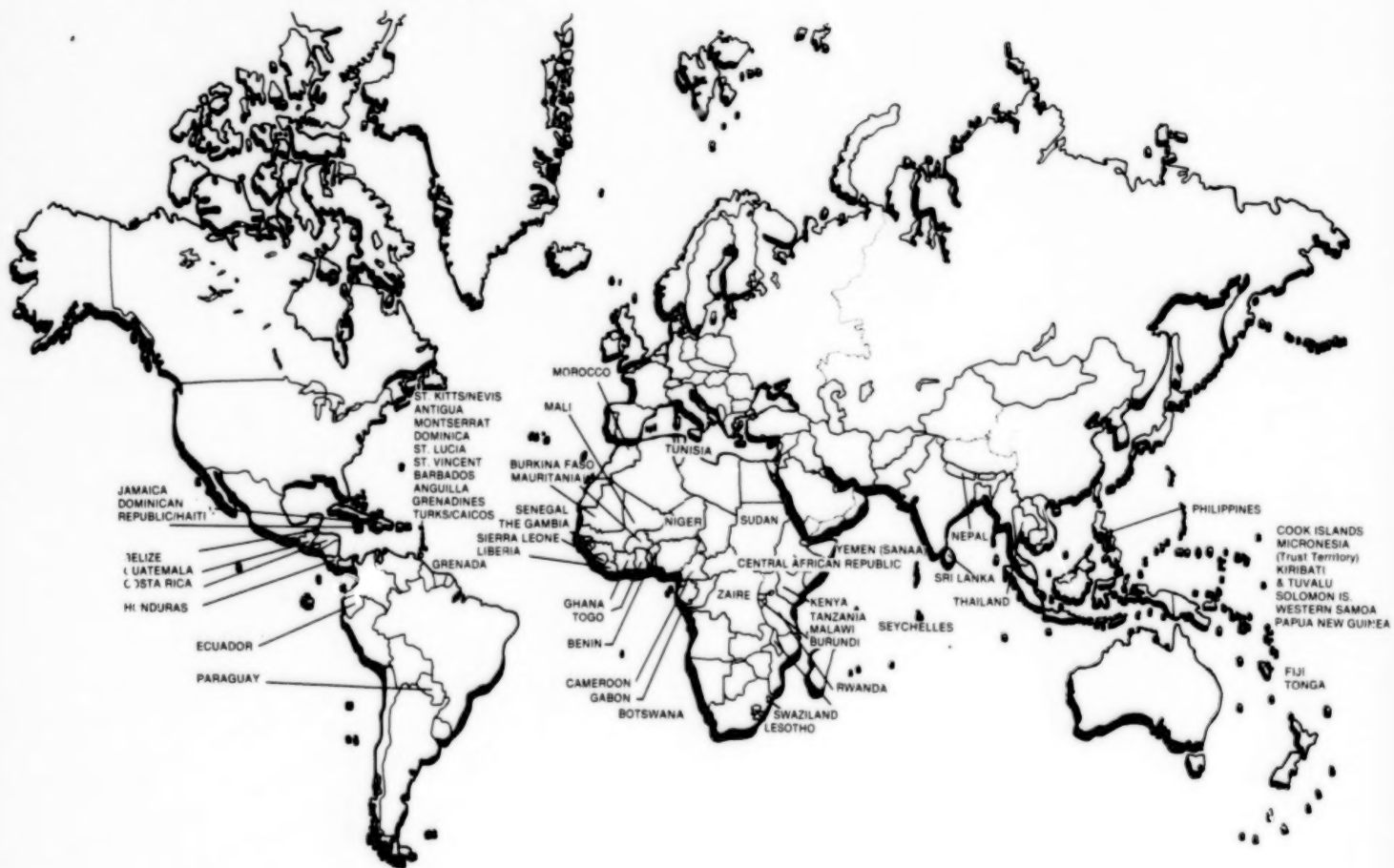
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Peace Corps Around the World: 1985



Peace Corps

FY 1985 Annual Report

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A tourism advisor in Costa Rica, Ruby St. Onge (l) visits with a woodcarver in one of the local shops.



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Fiscal Year 1985 has been exciting and challenging.

January we took a new step ahead on the long road toward development of adequate food supplies for the famine- and drought-stricken countries of Africa. We issued an appeal for 10,000 Americans with agriculture skills to volunteer for Peace Corps service. From these 10,000 inquiries Peace Corps hoped to field 600 qualified Volunteers.

More than 20,000 Americans responded. I took some of those calls myself, from farmers who thought their experiences in raising wheat, corn, soybeans, cattle, hogs and sheep could be adapted to the particular needs of the African farmer.

I spoke to young college graduates, with their new degrees in agriculture, forestry, biology, fisheries, health, engineering, business, education and other disciplines from which Peace Corps can draw expertise for its work in the developing world.

This response clearly illustrates that the spirit of Peace Corps is alive and well in this country and that the commitment exists to expand and reshape our efforts to the needs of a fast-changing world.



Peace Corps estimates that in FY 1985 literally millions of people throughout the world have been personally helped in some way by the work of Peace Corps Volunteers. They range from the parents of deaf children in Ecuador, where Volunteers set up a special education program; to subsistence farmers in Botswana, where Volunteers helped establish a program of community projects, including dam construction and road improvements to employ 1,300 persons who had lost their cattle herds.

In FY 1985 Peace Corps brought on 3,438 new trainees, the largest number in seven years. Eleven percent of them — two percent more than in FY 1984 — were over 50 years of age.

This increase in trainees is testimony to the growing success of efforts to recruit Volunteers with scarce skills and special backgrounds.

The rate at which applicants accept invitations to join Peace Corps rose to 73 percent, up eight percent from the previous year. This trend helps Peace Corps cut costs by enabling the agency to reduce the number of applicants who must be recruited in order to generate placements.

On April 23, 1985, 44 Peace Corps trainees and three outstanding Volunteers were honored by President Reagan in a Rose Garden ceremony at the White House. On that occasion, President Reagan highlighted the tremendous need for a concentrated effort to assist Africa in restoring its devastated food systems and commended Peace Corps Volunteers for being willing to "give more than money" to help host countries make the difficult, vital journey from dependence on short-term aid to self-sufficiency.

Many months before the Rose Garden ceremony, long before the eyes of the world had focused on the famine in Africa, Peace Corps had begun to evaluate its development efforts over the last 24 years on that continent. We were seeking to develop a program which would be more responsive to Africa's food production needs through the remainder of this century.

The result is the Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI) launched in January, 1985. The year was spent planning and designing country-specific agricultural programs in four pilot countries. The first teams of AFSI Volunteers will enter Mali, Zaire, Lesotho and Niger in FY 1986 and early FY 1987. Although Volunteers will continue to contribute to the development of education, health and other critical sectors in sub-Saharan Africa, the largest increase in Volunteer numbers will be in the agriculture sector for the next 15 years.

In Peace Corps' most varied region — North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific (NANEAP) — staff and Volunteers embarked on a systematic reassessment of program goals with host country representatives. These conversations and program reviews will help us shape the programs of that region into the most needed, most appropriate models for the future.

In the Inter-American Region, FY 1985 signified a year of expansion of education efforts through placement of 375 additional Volunteers in the four countries involved in the Initiative for Central America (IFCA). Also in that region, the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), a program aimed toward economic self-sufficiency, was advanced by development of a pre-training program for Volunteers who are working with country nationals on feasibility assessment and business planning for private enterprise and agribusiness.

A crucial aspect of our work is the continuing recruitment of qualified Volunteers with scarce skills and from target groups including minorities and older Americans. This is one of many activities for which we have received assistance and cooperation from the private sector, which has supported our recruitment efforts with in-kind production assistance and media placement valued at approximately \$33 million.

Through the Peace Corps Partnership Program, some 92 projects all over the world received an average donation of \$700 each from 260 U.S. citizens, community organizations and institutions. In-kind contributions climbed to the \$500,000 level in the second year of the program's operation.

Additional emphasis has been placed on developing cost-effective strategies through the Small Projects Assistance (SPA) program in which the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) provides funding to village-level projects run by Volunteers and host country nationals. Through this mechanism relatively small amounts of money have provided the impetus for growth of community efforts which have benefited many.

A highlight of FY 1985 which affected our efforts throughout the world was participation in the United Nations Women's Conference in Nairobi, Kenya in July. At the meeting 21 Kenyan women from the Rural Women's Extension Volunteers of Kenya staged an exhibit. They demonstrated and sold handicrafts to raise funds to

support the food production and income-generating projects they have developed with Peace Corps for rural women and youth groups.

To complement and enhance its programmatic efforts, Peace Corps strengthened its internal capabilities by introducing new cost accounting systems and other management tools during FY 1985.

- A major step forward was the opening of a new Peace Corps Computer Center which makes it possible for the agency to realize substantial cost savings. The nationwide computer system Peace Corps now has in place supports all domestic offices.

- As part of our continuing efforts to increase efficiency and reduce costs, Peace Corps management officials studied reporting requirements of overseas posts in order to identify and eliminate unnecessary paperwork. They also assisted these posts in integrating their procedures into the new computer system.

We have learned and accomplished a great deal over the past 24 years.

But that's only one side of the equation. We've learned, as President Reagan said, that: "In helping others develop, we help ourselves."

We have learned that interdependency is a reality of today's world. Forty percent of our exports now go to developing countries — translating into 1.5 million jobs for Americans. Helping a developing country establish a viable economy makes life more livable for its citizens. It also helps provide us with products which we need now and will need in the future.

And we have learned that Returned Peace Corps Volunteers are an incredible resource for America. More than 120,000 Americans have served in 92 developing countries worldwide and shared their knowledge of the peoples of the world beyond our shores.

As we look to the future, our guide is the 1985-87 Forward Plan, which spells out in detail the program and management changes to which we are committed.

During FY 1986 we will continue to re-examine the goals and commitments of Peace Corps in a nationwide series of forums designed to solicit the expertise of development professionals, the academic community, leaders of our government and foreign governments, the American public, and returned Volunteers.

We look forward to that challenge and to the challenge of the years that lie ahead, confident that in FY 1985 we have taken important steps to contribute effectively to human development, international friendship, and peace.

*Assistant director of the Foyer Koutoubia in Morocco,
Anne Reese (r) helps with handicapped children.*



A 4-H extension agent, Robert Thompson (l) promotes improved agricultural techniques among youth and community groups in Thailand.



Peace Corps: A Brief History

During FY 1985, both President Reagan and the U.S. Congress individually pronounced their support for the work of Peace Corps Volunteers. Through a Presidential Proclamation and a Congressional Resolution, October 1, 1985 through September 30, 1986 was set aside as a period for Americans to recognize the contributions of the more than 120,000 Americans who have served in the Peace Corps in 92 countries since it was created in 1961.

The Peace Corps was actually "created" twice in that first year — once on March 1, by Executive Order of President John F. Kennedy; and again on September 22 when Congress approved the Peace Corps Act which has been the legislative basis for the agency ever since.

Although bills which would have created a similar program had been introduced previously in Congress, the sparks that set off the nationwide movement to create Peace Corps were ignited by Presidential candidate Kennedy. His impromptu remarks to University of Michigan students were given on the steps of the Student Union in Ann Arbor at 2:00 a.m. on October 14, 1960. Picking up on the concept of an international "youth service program," the students organized a petition campaign to support it.

In his inaugural address, President Kennedy stated the Peace Corps philosophy: "To those peoples in the huts and villages of half the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our best efforts to help them help themselves."

Following preparation of the Executive Order establishing Peace Corps as an independent agency, Sargent Shriver became its first director in March, 1961. Six months later 51 Volunteers departed for service in secondary school programs in Ghana. Soon they were followed by some 700 more Volunteers who took up assignments in Chile, Colombia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, St. Lucia and Tanzania.

On September 22, 1961 Congress formally approved the Peace Corps Act, which stated that Peace Corps should work toward the following goals:

- To help the people of interested countries and areas in meeting their needs for trained manpower;
- To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served;
- To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

During the 1960s Peace Corps grew fast, from some 2,000 Volunteers and trainees in 1962, to 15,556 in 1966, the largest number in one year to date. For several years in a row more than 40,000 Americans applied to serve. The largest percentage of those selected had a background in liberal arts, the next largest group in education. The percentage of those with backgrounds in professional skills (in engineering, health or social work), agriculture and skilled

trades added up to only about a quarter of all those in service.

When Joseph Blatchford was confirmed as Peace Corps director in May, 1969 he announced the adoption of a "New Directions" policy which was designed to encourage more highly skilled Americans to volunteer.

"We are going to recruit . . . not just young people . . . but Americans of all ages — craftsmen from the ranks of labor, mid-career professionals from the ranks of business, experienced teachers and farmers," Blatchford declared. "These are the people developing countries are asking for and we are going to do everything possible to provide them."

During its tenth year, in 1971, Peace Corps was placed in the ACTION agency, newly created to combine in one location the federal volunteer programs serving people both in the U.S. and overseas. Blatchford was appointed to head the umbrella agency, and Kevin O'Donnell became Peace Corps director.

During the 1970s the percentage of Volunteers with a liberal arts background steadily declined. The Peace Corps had undertaken recruitment efforts designed to increase the number of new Volunteers with backgrounds in education, professional skills and agriculture.

As Volunteers completed their service and returned to the U.S., their experiences and know-how were put to work. They helped to shape appropriate new strategies designed to make the program more effective and more responsive to changing needs throughout the developing world.

One mechanism for doing this was creation in 1975 of the Information Collection and Exchange Program to share appropriate technology strategies with Volunteers throughout the world. The new program was charged with reviewing, cataloging and distributing information about the techniques learned by Peace Corps Volunteers during their years of grass roots development experience.

In 1977 for the first time a woman — Carolyn Payton — became Peace Corps director.

When the agency's legislation was renewed in 1978 it contained a new mandate to focus Peace Corps programs on meeting "the basic needs of those living in the poorest areas of developing countries." In addition, the law was amended to highlight the importance of women in development programming, providing an impetus for incorporating a "Women in Development" perspective in identifying needs and fashioning strategies to meet them.

In 1981 when Peace Corps observed its 20th anniversary with a commemoration service held on the steps of the Student Union building at the University of Michigan, some 25 percent of the 6,000 active Volunteers were working on "basic human needs" programs including nutrition, health and water supply.

The 1980s has brought increased support for the Peace Corps and its Volunteers by the President and Congress.

- In 1981 the Peace Corps regained its independent status as a federal agency resulting from the enactment of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act.

- In 1983 and 1985, Peace Corps Volunteers and the agency were honored by President Reagan in special White House Rose Garden ceremonies during National Volunteer Week.

- In 1985 authorizing legislation was passed for FY 1986 and 1987 including an amendment for Peace Corps calling for the agency to increase its Volunteer level to 10,000.

- The Volunteers have personally experienced the administration's support through visits by President Reagan and Vice President Bush as well as letters of congratulations and encouragement during the winter holidays and National Volunteer Week.

- The agency's programming efforts have further evolved in the 1980s to focus attention and resources on special needs in the Inter-American and Africa Regions.

- To enhance quality and availability of education as a basis for development in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras through the Initiative for Central America

(programs suggested by the Bi-Partisan Commission on Central America);

- To strengthen small and medium scale agribusinesses and to improve food production and income generation through the Caribbean Basin Initiative (as proposed by President Reagan); and

- To develop new, expanded patterns of staffing and programs to undertake a long-term effort to relieve the problem of declining food supply in Africa.

The Peace Corps has enjoyed a productive and enlightening history. As it enters its 25th Anniversary year in FY 1985, the agency looks forward to a continuation of the success it has experienced and furthering the goal of world peace through new and exciting challenges.



Marya Cota-Wilson (c) teaches special education and helps with health education, gardening, water and community project funding. Here, she is in a student garden in Costa Rica.

The Peace Corps Today

At the mid-point of its third decade, the Peace Corps has 5,935 Volunteers who are working to improve living conditions in 62 countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific.

The Volunteer

The average age of Volunteers in FY1985 was 29.1, up from 28.5 years in FY 1984 and from 24 or 25 in Peace Corps' early years.

Nearly half of the Volunteers are women. Seven percent or 438 are Senior Volunteers. Six percent are members of minority groups. Forty-seven percent of Volunteers have scarce skills; 53 percent have a background as a generalist.

In FY1985 the largest numbers of Volunteers worked in the education sector (38%) and in agriculture programs (26%). But Volunteer assignments covered a range of areas critical to the developing world, including water and sanitation, health and nutrition and small enterprise development.

Since 1961 the largest contingents of Volunteers have come from our largest states — more than 15,700 from New York and more than 10,545 from California.

The Program

The largest number of Volunteers serve in sub-Saharan Africa, where hunger continues to be a problem of dramatic magnitude. In FY1985 Peace Corps prepared to launch a new, long-term initiative to send specially selected and trained teams of Volunteers to work on efforts to alleviate the region's long-range shortage of food.

On assignment in the host countries they will work with small-scale farmers (most of whom are women) and other international agencies on land preparation and water supply, food production, and post-production activities such as preservation, processing, marketing and nutrition education.

The second largest group of Peace Corps Volunteers serves in the Inter-American Region on ten Caribbean islands and in nine other countries. They are utilizing more specialized skills than ever before in Peace Corps history. Twenty-nine percent work on primary assignments in education; 25 percent in food production; 13 percent in health and nutrition; seven percent in energy and forestry, and six percent in small enterprise development.

The North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific (NANEAP) Region is host to more than 1,450 Volunteers; and to the largest country program, which comprises a force of more than 330 Volunteers in the Philippines. Reflecting the diversity of the nations in the region, the Volunteers' assignments range from development of marine and inland fish resources in Tunisia to teaching English in Sri Lanka.



Andrew Bourne (c) teaches students from a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded in Costa Rica how to spray vegetables.

The Budget And Other Support

In FY 1985, Congress increased the Peace Corps appropriations to \$128.6 million from \$117 million in FY 1984. These additional funds enabled the agency to prepare to bring the Initiative for Central America and the Africa Food Systems Initiative into reality. In addition, improvements were made in the internal management system which will lead to greater efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

To supplement the appropriations, Peace Corps was fortunate to receive assistance from other organizations and groups in the form of in-kind and monetary support. For example, the agency worked closely with AID and several private voluntary organizations (PVOs) on cooperating ventures such as Small Project Assistance. In addition, the agency received contributions of goods and services from private industry and accepted financial donations through the Peace Corps Partnership Program. This monetary support was received from individuals, community and school groups, and private companies and organizations to support specific Peace Corps projects. (For further information, see "Office of Training and Program Support" and "Private Sector Development.") These concrete offers of support have helped Peace Corps to make the most cost-effective and efficient use of all its assets.

Africa Region

Background

The Peace Corps' Africa Region consists of 24 sub-Saharan countries. (North African countries served by Peace Corps are part of the NANEAP Region).

Since the very first Peace Corps Volunteer took up his assignment as an English teacher in Ghana in 1961, more than 50,000 Volunteers have served in 32 nations of this region.

In FY1985 the Peace Corps contingent in Africa consisted of more than 2,000 Volunteers. Planning and program development for the creation of new programs in two countries — Equatorial Guinea and the Republic of Guinea — was an important activity during the year.

The Africa Volunteers' assignments — in education, agriculture, health and small enterprise development — reflected the diversity of needs of a highly diverse group of countries.

In FY 1985, as was historically the case, more Volunteers worked in the education sector than in any other.

FY 1985 Developments

Fiscal Year 1985, however, marked a major turning point in the program focus of Peace Corps' Africa effort.

In FY1984 an estimated 100 million to 150 million people — as much as half the population — faced severe food shortages in sub-Saharan Africa. Peace Corps Volunteers were working in 12 of the 20 affected countries. The severity and persistence of drought and famine were brought home to the American public as well as to those who work in international development through graphic media accounts of its effects on the population.

Working with other donors, the U.S. increased its spending for the purchase and transport of emergency food aid to nations in distress. But it became increasingly clear that neither the cause of nor the cure for Africa's food shortages could be addressed only by crisis assistance.

Thus in FY1985 Peace Corps undertook a long-term, intensive, multidisciplinary initiative to address not only the immediate needs for short-term food aid — but the long-term problems of food production. A decision was made to channel an increased portion of the Peace Corps' resources into a 10-year effort. We would collaborate with up to 8-12 nations in their struggle to increase food production and put into place self-sustaining food systems.

On January 10, 1985 Peace Corps Director Loret Miller Ruppe appeared on a national television news show and appealed for 10,000 Volunteer applications from persons with agriculture-related skills for service in Africa. In less than 2 weeks, 7,000 persons had called Peace Corps' toll-free telephone number for information. By February 14 the number of responses had climbed to 14,568; and by the end of the spring, more than 20,000 inquiries had been received.

For the agency as a whole, the challenge in FY 1985 was to develop detailed plans and programs for what

became known as the Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI), while at the same time continuing with the Africa Region's existing programs. The region began to provide incentives for Peace Corps country staffs to increase their general programs in agriculture, specifically in areas which use the skills of Volunteers readily available to the Peace Corps.

Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI)

The progress achieved in 20 years of international efforts to increase food production in Africa has not been encouraging. There are many reasons for the failure, and if future efforts are to be successful, they must address a variety of problems.

The welcome rains which will result in larger crop harvests in 1986 are only a temporary relief. They will not lessen the need to eliminate severe long-term barriers to adequate food production. These barriers include a host of intertwined economic, social and historical factors — pricing and marketing strategies which keep food prices low and encourage cash crops over food production; increased desertification; rural-urban income disparities which spur migration to urban areas and reduce the agricultural work force; inadequate attention to the role of women in agriculture; and poorly developed transportation, marketing, research and extension services.

During FY1985 Peace Corps planners laid the groundwork for AFSI, designed both to develop self-sustaining food systems and to work toward upgrading public and private capacity to continue the development process. Strategy for the AFSI is to create teams of Peace Corps Volunteers with complementary skills. They will work with small-scale farmers on a range of needs including land preparation, development of water supply, preservation and marketing of food and nutrition education. The exact make-up of each 5- to 10-person team will depend on the needs of the area where the Volunteers are working. Some team members will be specialists. Others will be generalists who have received skill training.

The first AFSI Volunteers will begin work during fiscal year 1986 in four countries which will undertake pilot programs: Mali, Zaire, Lesotho and Niger. In each case their activities will be closely coordinated with those of other international agencies and the host governments to achieve maximum effectiveness.

The long-term AFSI plan calls for placing Volunteers in up to 8 additional countries.

FY1985 Program Accomplishments

Agriculture/Food Production/Drought Relief

BOTSWANA: Volunteers in this southern African nation worked on a variety of projects to combat the effects of the fourth year of the drought. The drought has rendered subsistence farmers helpless and has increasingly decimated cattle growers' herds.

One important initiative was the "labor-based relief program" in which 1,300 subsistence farmers who had lost their livelihood were employed as laborers in community pro-

jects. Projects — including dam construction, road improvement, soil erosion control and others — were suggested by village development committees and undertaken with technical assistance from Volunteers.

LESOTHO: Volunteers helped establish more than 25 school and community gardens; worked with farmers to develop sunflowers as an alternative crop; directed the installation of a large-scale irrigation system on a cabbage farm; and undertook construction of eight major and 15 smaller village water supply systems. In FY 1986, this country will host a pilot effort in the AFSI program.

Education

GAMBIA: Education Volunteers played a key role in establishing a book production and materials resources unit which — among other things — provides primary education textbooks. The Volunteers helped train Gambians in graphic arts, printing and finishing, photography, composing and designing, and dealing with clients. In addition to school books, the center offers photography service for public and private agencies and firms.

Health

TOGO: Volunteers continued the Peace Corps' close cooperation with host country education and health ministries to institutionalize preventive health care lessons in the primary school system.

Each Volunteer works with host country counterparts to train teachers in a particular region, and those teachers in turn train others in their zones. More than 6,500 teachers representing two-thirds of the country's elementary schools have been trained.

Small Enterprise Development

KENYA: A Volunteer, retired from several small business enterprises including a pie-making business, worked with six local women in the Nyeri area. They established a bakery which sells bread, cakes and samosas (a sort of meat or vegetable pie) to nearby hotels and restaurants.

The idea for the bakery emerged when village women expressed interest in the bread the Volunteer was baking for her own use. The local women, who were unemployed single parents, made samples of several types of baked goods to show to prospective customers, who then placed orders. The Volunteer and the women worked with Peace Corps and secured a "Small Projects Assistance" (SPA) grant from AID to purchase kitchen equipment and utensils. The local women are now drawing salaries from the business. The Volunteer, who has extended her Peace Corps assignment, is being reassigned to Nairobi to work with other Kenyan women to start another bakery.

Lori Payne (l) is a research assistant and extension agent at a large agricultural research station in Costa Rica. Here, she checks on seedlings.



Inter-American Region

Background

The Inter-American Region spans the Caribbean as well as countries in both Central and South America. Since Peace Corps began its activities there in 1961, more than 25,000 Volunteers have served in 28 countries of the region.

The majority of poor people in the region are concentrated in rural areas with little or no access to education, health and technical assistance services.

Peace Corps' work there has historically been focused on rural development activities. They were designed to produce the food, goods and services essential to generate the income needed for economic self-sufficiency and improvements in the quality of life.

Agriculture, health/nutrition, irrigation/sanitation, cooperatives and small business development, vocational training and forestry/conservation have been key areas in Inter-American programs for more than 20 years.

When the energy crisis occurred in the 1970s increased emphasis was placed on appropriate technology — especially renewable energy projects that rely on wind, water and solar power. Host country governments have also become increasingly concerned over the rapid destruction of the natural resources — forests, land and water.

During FY1985 some 1,300 Volunteers served in four Central American countries, two South American countries and 12 Caribbean nations.

FY1985 Developments

Initiative for Central America

The cadre of Peace Corps Volunteers in Inter-American Region countries increased by nearly 400 in FY1985 as the Initiative for Central America (IFCA) became operational.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, Peace Corps sent a 5-member assessment team to Central America. They were to determine how the agency should implement Congress' mandate to increase support of socio-economic development in this area. The mandate was an outgrowth of the recommendations of the National Bipartisan Commission on Central America, whose report was released in January, 1984.

The needs assessment team, composed of three Peace Corps staff members and two consultants, spent two weeks each in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Honduras, all countries where Peace Corps was already working. The team identified education — both formal and nonformal — as central to achieving progress in agriculture, forestry, housing, nutrition and other areas.

The team concluded that although literacy was a critical goal, host countries preferred to have Volunteers assist in training native teachers rather than to serve as teachers themselves.

This and the team's other conclusions served as the framework for creating an IFCA program which sent 378 additional Volunteers — 293 of them to work in the education sector — into the four countries during FY 1985. In addition to education, these Volunteers will work on small enterprise development, health/nutrition and on special assignments.

The greatest increment of Volunteers was in Honduras, with 143 additional persons assigned. Costa Rica received 107; Belize, 91; and Guatemala, 37. Two examples of IFCA programs include:

COSTA RICA: In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, PCVs have helped establish student cooperatives in vocational education and technical high schools, where students learn a trade and then get the on-the-job experience necessary to fine-tune their skills. Students in the co-ops are trained in agriculture, industrial arts and home economics. Any projects received from the work done by the students during classroom hours is returned to the school. After school hours, students are encouraged to join the Student Cooperative. Its purpose is to develop the income-generating drive and business management skills to establish the young people in business upon graduation. In this way, the schools benefit through increased income and the students learn a marketable trade as well as how to become small entrepreneurs in a cooperative environment.

BELIZE: In cooperation with AID, PCVs have established the Belize Junior School of Agriculture. They work with school dropouts or students whose income has severely declined due to the closing of the sugar refinery in the Northern District. The PCVs work with these young men and women to develop marketable skills in the agriculture field. The school is at the intermediate level and currently has 25 students. This program has been so successful that there are plans to establish similar schools in other locations in Belize.

The IFCA program will continue to expand in FY1986.

Caribbean Basin Initiative

The Initiative grew out of the 1983 Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act. Its purpose is to promote private sector development and economic reliance among the people of the Caribbean Basin.

Peace Corps thrust has been toward stimulating growth of small and medium scale agribusiness in the region. The work is carried out by Volunteers with agriculture and business backgrounds who assist host country small farmers' associations and host government agencies.

During FY 1985 approximately 450 Volunteers or about 50% of those assigned to the eleven CBI countries were working on the creation of some type of private enterprise. During the year Peace Corps developed a pre-service training program to assist small businesses in feasibility assessment and business planning for agribusiness and other private enterprise. Capital investments resulting from these efforts have totaled approximately \$3 million and returns range from ten percent to 40 percent. Most of the people assisted were subsistence producers and succeeded in doubling or tripling their income. Two examples of CBI programs are:

GUATEMALA: Through a feasibility and marketing study, a Volunteer worked with subsistence farmers in the agricultural cooperative in El Guayabo in eastern Guatemala to identify ways of increasing their annual income of \$50 per family.

As a result of the study, the cooperative is improving production by installing and adding storage and processing equipment. They expect to increase yields of corn by 20 percent; to reduce post-harvest loss of corn by 25 percent; and to begin to sell processed coffee instead of only the raw beans.

The new facilities and storage capacity will make it possible for the farmers to sell products outside their own area, and to increase family incomes by as much as 200 percent.

HONDURAS: Volunteers working in the island community of Utila helped residents identify the marketing possibilities for a particularly tasty, medium-sized variety of papaya.

During FY 1985 they wrote a plan for production and marketing of the fruit which resulted in receipt of a grant of \$72,000 from FOPRIDE, a Honduran agribusiness development agency.

Some 300 small growers and business people in the community of 2,000 persons are expected to benefit from production of the papaya and its export to the Honduran mainland.

FY 1985 Program Accomplishments

Education

HONDURAS: Education Volunteers were assigned to substitute for 40 low-income rural teachers sent to study in the United States under the U.S. Information Agency's new Central American Program for Undergraduate Scholarship (CAMPUS) and as part of IFCA's expansion in this country. Under the program, rural teachers who usually have to complete their education by correspondence courses will have an opportunity to complete their last two years of training in the U.S.

Health

ECUADOR: Special education Volunteers sponsored a handicapped awareness day which attracted over 500 people. The range of training and awareness activities conducted was designed to benefit persons with different types of disabilities.

Also during FY 1985, the Volunteers sponsored three seminars for 120 teachers; established special education resource rooms in schools; developed an income generation project for deaf and blind persons in three major cities; created orientation and mobility programs for the blind; and established a pilot early stimulation program for deaf infants and their parents using deaf adults as counterparts.

Small Enterprise Development

DOMINICA: The Candle Industries Cooperative Society was formed in 1977 but could not begin production until

1982 when they were able to purchase a candle-making machine with assistance from AID. The cottage industry achieved a profit in 1984. Having filled the local market, the business is now looking toward earning a profit from export markets.

Receipt of a loan is making it possible for the business to move into a better facility. A Peace Corps Volunteer is working with the cooperative to plan production and deal with the increase in overhead brought about by the move.

DOMINICA: A former taxicab driver has created a successful pasta making business which started with production of "Chinese noodles" in a small shed. Following his local success, he became interested in developing an export operation. A Peace Corps Volunteer is now working with him to design strategies for expanding in the regional market.

Agriculture

ECUADOR: Volunteers provided technical assistance to small-scale farmers in fish farming, vegetable gardens, small and large animal husbandry, and soil conservation.

COSTA RICA: Since 1982 Volunteers have worked with approximately 150 farmers in the Atlantic region to help them develop skills for construction of fish ponds and raising fish.

In FY1985 the project entered a new phase in which Volunteers and farmers are developing a system for the domestic marketing of smoked, fresh and canned tilapia, a fresh-water fish.

North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific Region

Background

The North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific region (NANEAP) has Peace Corps programs in 19 countries.

The geographical characteristics of the region range from the peaks of the Himalayas in Nepal to the tropical forests of the Philippines to the deserts of North Africa and the sandy beaches of the Pacific Islands.

The size of the Peace Corps effort in this region varies from more than 300 Volunteers in the Philippines — long the site of the largest country program — to groups of less than five Volunteers in small, isolated areas such as the Cook Islands in the South Pacific.

Each sub-region has its own special characteristics and needs.

The North Africa/Near East area includes Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen Arab Republic and the Seychelles. Lack of productive land, a high infant mortality rate and a life expectancy of approximately 55 years are found in all of these countries. Literacy ranges from 28 percent in Morocco to 62 percent in Tunisia. Annual per capita income ranges from \$460 in Yemen to \$1,420 in Tunisia.

The Asian countries — Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand and the Philippines — face the challenge of putting into place basic health, sanitation and water systems (especially in rural areas). In addition they need to improve agriculture and reforestation, and expand small business development and secondary education.

The Pacific sub-region, which consists of small, isolated island groups, focuses on the need to achieve a higher standard of living while conserving fragile island ecological systems.

FY1985 Developments

During fiscal year 1985 the NANEAP Region commenced a major reassessment of program needs.

Two major factors motivated the decision to reassess — the need to apportion scarce resources as effectively as possible in a large and diverse region; and the desire to ensure that current programs are in fact meeting current and future needs of host countries and are not based on outdated assumptions and approaches.

Using the three legislatively mandated Peace Corps goals as guidelines (see Peace Corps history section of this report), country directors in NANEAP undertook reassessments which included conversations with host country officials. These discussions are continuing in 1986.

Another event of FY1985 was Peace Corps' augmentation of programming in Sri Lanka. Peace Corps returned to Sri Lanka in 1984 (for the third time, after an absence of 14 years), reopening its activity with Volunteers teaching English as a second language.

In addition, during FY1985 plans were laid for expansion and diversification of Peace Corps' role through place-

ment of several Volunteers with the Mahaweli Development project.

This huge project — supported by a range of other international agencies — consists of several components designed to make Sri Lanka self-sufficient in food production as well as hydroelectric power. Activities include construction of five major dams, an extensive irrigation system and resettlement of hundreds of thousands of settlers in an area previously useful only for subsistence agriculture.

Peace Corps Volunteers who are assigned to the Mahaweli Development Project will serve as poultry extension agents, beekeeping extension agents and small business development advisors.

An important event in the Pacific Islands sub-region during this year was preparing for the establishment of Peace Corps as an independent project in the Marshall Islands. The change in status, which becomes official in 1986, evolves from the establishment of the independent Republic of the Marshall Islands as separate from the Trust Territory of the Pacific.

During FY1985 a unique working group composed of representatives of all of the Marshall Islands' government agencies, plus Peace Corps representatives, met to create the framework for a Peace Corps-host country thrust in three areas — health, youth and English language instruction.

The NANEAP staff sees this process as a particularly fruitful and effective one which could serve as a model for Peace Corps reprogramming efforts in other countries.

FY1985 Program Accomplishments

Cost Analysis and Marketing Strategies

MICRONESIA: Peace Corps Volunteers have been working in Micronesia since 1966 on a range of projects including English teaching, health, agriculture and others.

In FY1985 the first contingent of marine fisheries Volunteers was assigned to serve in Micronesia. During the year they completed a survey of the outer islands of Pohnpei State to determine availability and marketability of sea cucumbers, trochus and other exportable sea products. With the information gathered from the study, islanders have been able to identify this activity as a new source of income generation.

PHILIPPINES: A priority during FY1985 was coupling technical support to economic development to ensure that the farmer — who is often trying out newly-introduced techniques — realizes profits that encourage future production.

More than 100 Volunteers worked with government and private-sector interests in development of more effective rural-based programs in agribusiness, financing and marketing development.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Two Volunteers with experience working in business assisted a handicraft production and marketing business to become more successful. The business, which produces and sells masks, wooden bowls, musical instruments and other local crafts, was able to improve quality control and to move its location to a site closer to areas frequented by tourists who are the potential buyers.

Renewable Energy

SUDAN: This North African country suffers a severe shortage of fuelwood due to deforestation, soil erosion and desertification. In 1984 five Peace Corps Volunteers entered the country to participate in a collaborative effort with the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) to address the problem of depletion of limited fuelwood resources.

With GTRI the Volunteers worked on several strategies to alleviate the crisis: reforestation, encouraging farmers to plant crops along the riverbanks, and production and distribution of more fuel-efficient stoves. Encouraging use

of the metal ceramic stoves, which burn briquettes and place less demand on wood supplies, required extensive public education — training, extension work and development of publications.

Stoves are now being produced at a rate of 10,000 per year.

Nutrition and Income Generation

TUNISIA: The great potential of this nation's marine and inland waters for generating a nutritional source of protein — fish — has not been fully exploited.

VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES BY REGION 1961-1985

| | Africa | East Asia Pacific | Inter America | North Africa Near East South Asia | Total |
|------------------|--------|----------------------|------------------|---|--------|
| June 30, 1961 | 44 | — | 80 | — | 124 |
| June 30, 1962 | 779 | 819 | 823 | 359 | 2,816 |
| June 30, 1963 | 2,230 | 1,372 | 2,194 | 850 | 6,646 |
| June 30, 1964 | 3,522 | 1,070 | 3,986 | 1,500 | 10,078 |
| June 30, 1965 | 4,146 | 1,632 | 4,904 | 2,566 | 13,248 |
| June 30, 1966 | 4,640 | 2,360 | 5,452 | 3,158 | 15,556 |
| June 30, 1967 | 4,110 | 2,499 | 5,038 | 3,321 | 14,968 |
| June 30, 1968 | 3,738 | 3,142 | 4,486 | 2,457 | 13,823 |
| June 30, 1969 | 3,386 | 2,290 | 3,362 | 2,193 | 12,131 |
| June 30, 1970 | 2,775 | 2,027 | 3,096 | 1,615 | 9,513 |
| June 30, 1971 | 2,722 | — | 2,401 | 1,943 | 7,066 |
| June 30, 1972 | 2,238 | — | 1,819 | 2,837 | 6,894 |
| June 30, 1973 | 2,483 | — | 2,199 | 2,672 | 7,341 |
| June 30, 1974 | 2,659 | — | 2,613 | 2,772 | 8,044 |
| June 30, 1975 | 2,509 | — | 1,997 | 2,509 | 7,015 |
| June 30, 1976 | 2,181 | — | 1,717 | 2,060 | 5,958 |
| June 30, 1977 | 2,055 | — | 1,838 | 1,859 | 5,752 |
| * Sept. 30, 1978 | 2,460 | — | 2,170 | 2,442 | 7,072 |
| Sept. 30, 1979 | 2,401 | — | 1,904 | 2,023 | 6,328 |
| Sept. 30, 1980 | 2,464 | — | 1,728 | 1,802 | 5,994 |
| Sept. 30, 1981 | 2,399 | — | 1,484 | 1,562 | 5,445 |
| Sept. 30, 1982 | 2,298 | — | 1,419 | 1,563 | 5,380 |
| Sept. 30, 1983 | 2,470 | — | 1,524 | 1,489 | 5,483 |
| Sept. 30, 1984 | 2,462 | — | 1,621 | 1,616 | 5,699 |
| Sept. 30, 1985 | 2,709 | — | 1,892 | 1,663 | 6,264 |

Source: Volunteer and Staff Payroll Services Branch (M/FM/A/VSPS)

* change in end of fiscal year

Tunisians who live near the coast eat 14 kilos of fish per year, compared to 2.5 kilos per person in the inland areas. But even the potential of the marine fishing industry has not been realized due to barriers including lack of storage facilities.

Volunteers worked on both marine and inland fishery development in Tunisia during FY1985. Volunteers assigned to the marine fisheries effort wrote a refrigeration manual which will be used as the basis of an extension program designed to improve refrigeration facilities and procedures.

A Volunteer skilled in boat design drew up plans for a boat to be used in maintaining and cleaning dams on inland lakes. A second Volunteer designed the hydraulic system enabling the back of the boat to open for equipment loading. The boat design won a government competition and is being implemented.

Other inland fisheries Volunteers were involved in developing commercial fishing, by creating a data base on current fish supply and catches. This helped introduce three new species of fish to reservoirs.



A marine biologist, Gene Feltman (c), raises bait to establish a commercial pole and line tuna fishing industry in Western Samoa.

Office of Marketing, Recruitment, Placement and Staging

The responsibilities of the Office of Marketing, Recruitment, Placement and Staging (MRPS) are to attract qualified Americans to serve in the Peace Corps, to examine their qualifications, to place them in the most appropriate overseas assignment and to prepare them for departure to the country to which they are assigned.

The overriding goal guiding the office's activity during FY 1985 was to attract and begin to place additional Volunteers in an effort to reach the goal of 10,000 Volunteers serving overseas. This goal was mandated by the U.S. Congress in the passage of the agency's FY 1985/1986 authorization bill. The increased numbers of Volunteers would serve in needed agriculture and health education programs. They could better meet the needs of our Africa Food Systems Initiative, and programs could be developed to help women in the developing world meet their families' basic needs — food production/preparation, child care, and health hygiene programs.

The office has also developed important qualitative goals, dedicating itself to instituting policies and procedures which will attract the most highly qualified Volunteers and prepare them efficiently and substantively for their experience overseas.

Peace Corps' commitment to two special initiatives — the Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI) and the Initiative for Central America (IFCA) — posed a double challenge to the office — they identified more qualified Volunteers and recruited Volunteers with specific technical and language skills which would be critical to the success of the new efforts.

In order to prepare to meet these ambitious goals, in FY1985 MRPS installed new computer terminals which provide the capability of speeding up processing of applications and ensuring better accuracy and tracking of records.

Office of Marketing

The function of this office is to develop, carry out and monitor advertising and promotion activities to stimulate qualified Americans of various ages, skills and backgrounds to apply for Peace Corps service.

Both print and electronic media techniques — as well as activities which put staff and returned Volunteers into direct contact with potential applicants — are employed in the marketing effort.

A national television and a radio public service announcement campaign continued through FY1985. Two radio announcements were distributed to over 6,000 stations across the country. Television announcements were distributed to over 900 stations.

One result of these campaigns was that in FY1985 Peace Corps received nearly 107,000 inquiries from the

general public, up from 95,000 in FY1984.

Marketing efforts, however, must be targeted to reach Americans with special skills and backgrounds.

During FY1985 this office continued its efforts to channel information and to recruit applicants from several target groups: minorities, potential Senior Volunteers and Volunteers with scarce skills.

Particular activities which were undertaken to reach Americans with scarce skills and special backgrounds include:

*To attract Black Americans:

*Sponsorship of the first of a series of conferences

APPLICATIONS AND PLACEMENTS 1961-1985

| YEAR | APPLICATIONS | ENTERED ON DUTY |
|-------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1961 | 12,644 | 864 |
| 1962 | 20,048 | 4,199 |
| 1963 | 33,762 | 4,753 |
| 1964 | 45,653 | 7,480 |
| 1965 | 42,125 | 7,899 |
| 1966 | 42,246 | 9,489 |
| 1967 | 35,229 | 7,524 |
| 1968 | 30,450 | 7,168 |
| 1969 | 24,220 | 4,838 |
| 1970 | 19,022 | 4,591 |
| 1971 | 26,483 | 4,985 |
| 1972* | 23,849 | 1,206 |
| 1973 | 33,637 | 5,408 |
| 1974 | 30,158 | 4,867 |
| 1975 | 28,761 | 3,170 |
| 1976 | 18,189 | 3,175 |
| TQ** | 2,452 | 1,497 |
| 1977 | 13,908 | 3,986 |
| 1978 | 13,661 | 3,580 |
| 1979 | 18,159 | 3,229 |
| 1980 | 16,195 | 3,041 |
| 1981 | 15,527 | 2,642 |
| 1982 | 14,577 | 2,801 |
| 1983 | 16,835 | 2,945 |
| 1984 | 13,917 | 2,774 |
| 1985 | 13,975 | 3,452 |
| Total | 605,682 | 111,563 |

* Change from program year to fiscal year

**Transition Quarter

Notes: Data includes 284 United Nations Volunteers.

Sources: Office of Volunteer Recruitment and Selection (VRS/ADMIN) — (Applications).

Office of Financial Management (M/FM/AVSPS)
— (Entered on Duty).

United Nations Volunteer Program Staff (IO/UNV)
— (Number of United Nations Volunteers).

for placement directors at historically Black colleges and universities;

*Production and distribution of a special exhibit highlighting the contributions of black Americans in the Peace Corps. Copies of the exhibit, available in each of 16 local recruiting offices, are used for recruiting on college campuses, for display in Federal buildings, etc.

***To attract Hispanic Americans:**

*Producing informational materials in support of the new Miami recruitment office and the upgraded Puerto Rico office in order to recruit Hispanic and Senior Volunteers.

*Hiring of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who have served in Inter-American countries to work as recruiters;

*Translation of existing Peace Corps brochures into Spanish and production of a new brochure, written in both Spanish and English, to attract Volunteers for service in Latin America.

*Distribution of TV and radio public service announcements in Spanish for the first time.

***To attract Senior Volunteers:**

*Production and distribution of an information kit which provides answers to questions potential Volunteers commonly ask about Social Security, selling a house and other items;

*Preparation of a recruitment kit to be distributed to corporations for recruitment of retired persons.

***To attract applicants with scarce skills:**

*Distribution of a series of pamphlets which demonstrate to potential Volunteers how they can use their specialized skills — engineering, special education, etc. — in Peace Corps;

*Intensive contact with trade and technical journals to place articles about Peace Corps;

*Direct mail campaigns aimed at persons with scarce skills.

Office of Recruitment

The FY1985 recruitment effort focused on four major activities:

*To deliver 2,880 trainees to maintain general Peace Corps operations worldwide;

*To recruit an additional 180 Volunteers with skills in forestry, agriculture, special education, vocational education, math and science;

*To recruit 375 trainees to serve in the Initiative for Central America; and

*Plan for recruitment of 125 Volunteers for the Africa Food Systems Initiative to be placed in FY1986.

During FY1985 the Peace Corps received applications from 13,681 persons; 3,438 of the applicants — the largest number in seven years — were accepted and placed in training.

Peace Corps also sought to improve its record of recruitment of minorities and of older Americans, as well as of those with scarce skills.

Of the 5,935 Volunteers serving overseas in FY1985:

*438 or seven percent were over age 50;

*362 or six percent were minorities; and

*2,772 or 47 percent had scarce skills.

In FY1985 the Office of Recruitment made progress on several new strategies to improve the quality and quantity of Volunteers recruited.

One strategy was the creation of special project teams to improve recruitment in four scarce skill areas: forestry, agriculture, special education and industrial arts. Each team is composed of specialists from local recruiting offices and from Peace Corps headquarters.

The office also moved ahead on automation of recruitment systems, providing all 16 recruiting offices with computer terminals linked to the computer at headquarters. This makes it possible to speed processing of Volunteer applications.

Continued outreach to corporations, organizations, community groups and individuals who can help identify potential Volunteers was also an important activity during the year.

Office of Placement

The challenge which faces this office is matching available Volunteers with job assignments requested by host countries.

Many requests are for Volunteers with scarce skills. Identifying and recruiting such Volunteers was a priority for all units of MRPS in FY1985.

In FY1985 the Placement office exceeded the agency's goal of 3,385 trainees with a total of 3,438 trainees. This number includes 378 Volunteers trained for the Central America Initiative — three more than the goal.

Continuing a trend, in FY1985 there was an increase in the rate of acceptance of applicants who were invited to serve: 73 percent, up eight percent from FY1984 (which was up from an average of 68 percent over the previous three years). A higher acceptance rate results in cost savings for the agency by reducing the number of applicants who must be recruited in order to generate placements.

An important tool in achieving the goal was conducting a survey of the reasons that applicants decline invitations to serve in Peace Corps. The survey found that the

delay between the time of application and the invitation to serve was a prime factor.

For this reason and to generally improve the office's effectiveness, a number of new administrative procedures were implemented in FY1985. They included:

- *Developing a uniform interview form so that all recruiters ask applicants the same questions, and so that answers can be analyzed more efficiently;

- *Establishing a uniform method of organizing the materials in each applicant's file; and

- *Putting in place new data collection procedures made possible by the agency's new, more modern computers.

All of these changes assisted the unit in meeting placement goals, including the special needs of preparing for the Africa Food Systems Initiative (AFSI).

Office of Staging

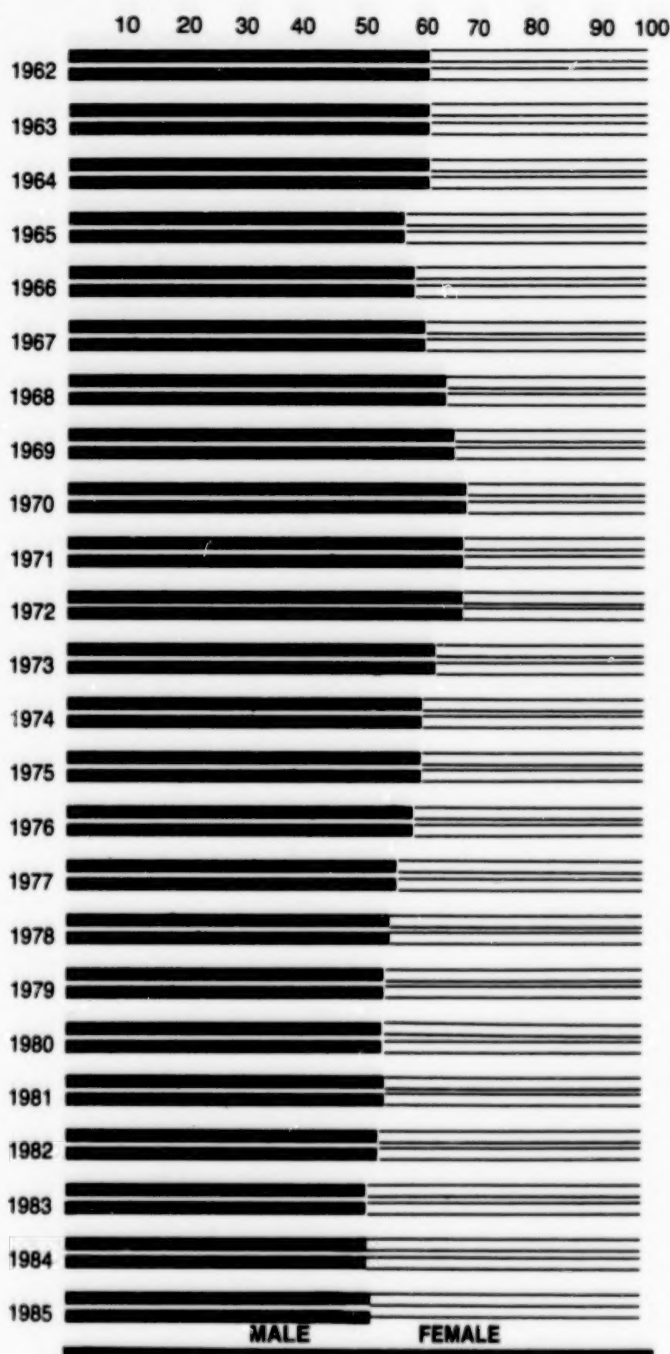
The Staging office is a key point of contact for new Volunteers. It is responsible for providing them with initial briefings and placing them overseas for in-country training and assignment.

During FY1985 the office reassessed and revised its two main tools for carrying out these functions: the six-day training known as CREST (Center for Reassessment and Training) and the eight-day CAST program (Center for Assessment and Training).

As was the case with other sub-units of MRPS, the Staging Office improved its capability to work with automated systems. All staff learned to use word processing equipment and some staff began to receive training in the use of mini-computers to perform administrative tasks such as preparing trainee rosters.

Consistent with the agency's goal of recruiting more Hispanic trainees and preparing them for placement in the countries involved in the Initiative for Central America, staging coordinators in the office received training in Spanish to improve their effectiveness.

Volunteers By Sex 1962-1985



Source: Volunteer and Staff Payroll Services Branch
(M/FM/A/VSPS)

Office of Training and Program Support

The Office of Training and Program Support (OTAPS) provides substantive back-up to overseas Volunteers and staff in the form of training, program assistance and information collection and exchange.

It is organized into three functional units — Program Support, Training Support and Information Collection and Exchange. The organization encompasses wide staff expertise on the sectors to which Volunteers are assigned (agriculture, health, etc.) and in the methods for accomplishing Peace Corps goals (through involving women in development, etc.).

OTAPS generates the standards, basic procedures, and guidelines and training that seek to ensure quality in Peace Corps programs all over the world. Among its responsibilities are:

- *Advising the Associate Director of International Operations on all matters relating to the program and training policy;

- *Developing policy guidelines and strategies, and assisting in the establishment of Peace Corps program and training priorities;

- *Establishing agency-wide guidelines, criteria, standards and procedures for program and training activities;

- *Providing technical assistance to program sectors and assessment of program activities; and

- *Compiling a wide variety of information — data, case studies, etc. — about Peace Corps activities worldwide.

Office of Program Support

Each of the eight program sectors represented in this office support the missions of Volunteers overseas through a range of support activities including technical assistance and maintenance of relationships with other development agencies and resources.

AGRICULTURE: Since 1961 Peace Corps has placed over 25,000 Volunteers in agricultural programs in over 75 countries. In the twenty years since 1966, agriculture projects have almost tripled. This growth has been the result of a reorientation of programming in the 1970s to place smaller, more specialized groups in the field with skills that would better respond to the priority needs of host countries.

Traditional agricultural systems in the developing world face tremendous developmental and population pressures to produce more food. The more than 1,000 agricultural Volunteers in the field work to address these needs through

programs including crop extension, soil science, agricultural economics and research, animal husbandry, cooperatives, rural youth development and other programs.

In FY 1985 a major priority was preparation for the Africa Food Systems Initiative. Other sector activities included technical assistance in agricultural education; revising a manual on use of soils, crops and fertilizer; and collaborating with other international development agencies.

EDUCATION: Since 1961 almost five million students in developing countries have been taught by Peace Corps Volunteers. More Volunteers have served in education programs than in any other single program area.

In FY 1985 about 1,500 Volunteers served in ten types of education projects in more than 50 countries. Their projects ranged from adult education to secondary level mathematics and science instruction to various forms of non-formal education.

In recognition of the complex relationship between education and development and of the staying power of Peace Corps' education programs, during FY1985 Peace Corps established an education sector in OTAPS.

This sector's goals are to enhance Volunteers' ability to teach effectively, to monitor the quality and direction of training of Volunteers, to work with other development organizations and to provide technical support materials for Volunteers and overseas staff.

During FY1985 activities included conducting training programs for Volunteers in Burkina Faso, Botswana and Ecuador and pre-service training for Volunteers assigned to Tanzania, the Gambia and Ghana. In addition the staff supervised development of a directory of organizations working with the disabled in Latin America.

FISHERIES: Peace Corps Volunteers have worked on aquaculture programs — which strive to produce a maximum fish crop with a minimum of effort — in over 40 countries since the first one was established in Togo in 1966.

Although aquaculture is the source of cheap high-protein food, it has not been widely practiced in Third World countries historically. But as knowledge of aquaculture and its benefits expand, it is estimated that world consumption of fish may increase by as much as 500% in the next 15 years.

All projects are aimed at improving nutrition and increasing income. The major emphasis of Peace Corps' programs has been dissemination of fish culture technology at the grass roots level. Volunteers have been responsible for writing manuals and extension pamphlets in host country languages, designing and supervising construction of fish farms and hatcheries, conducting applied research, and transferring know-how to farmers and/or counterparts to encourage economic self-sufficiency.

The role of the sector staff is to provide expertise to rural development programmers in designing and managing fisheries projects, and to maintain contact with technical and financial institutions involved with international fisheries development.

ENERGY: This sector focuses on developing projects and programs to conserve traditional fuels or to propose alternative sources of energy to perform and improve domestic and agricultural functions.

Programmatic emphases of the sector have been fo-

cused on simple solar systems, stove construction, pedal power devices, small wind systems, biogas digesters, hydraulic rams and charcoal production.

The sector supports the field by identifying viable projects, providing technical assistance and developing skill training programs.

FORESTRY/NATURAL RESOURCES: An estimated 1.5 billion people in developing nations depend on wood for fuel, food and shelter. Peace Corps programming in 45 countries includes initiatives in reforestation, nursery management, wildlife management, environmental education and park planning. These are among the strategies undertaken to work toward meeting the basic needs for food, energy, water and shelter.

Through an agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development (U.S. AID), Peace Corps has been able to increase its capability to initiate projects, provide additional training, and program support to existing efforts.

HEALTH: The Peace Corps along with other development agencies working in health has adopted a goal of "Health for All by 2000."

The criteria for Peace Corps' health programs have not changed during the last 20 years: to emphasize health care services for those most in need — especially women and children — and to support development of local capabilities and training of host country nationals to meet those needs.

Although since 1940 there has been a 70% increase in life expectancy in developing nations, progress has slowed in recent years. Future advances are threatened by the high incidence of infant deaths due to diarrheal dehydration and communicable diseases (all preventable by vaccine), by the doubling of malaria cases worldwide, and by a resurgence of parasitic and infectious diseases.

In recent years the health sector has been cooperating with U.S. AID on three types of strategies designed to ameliorate these problems. These initiatives are:

Childhood Communicable Diseases Project: A cooperative effort between Peace Corps, U.S. AID, the Center for Disease Control and 12 African nations. The goal is to reduce high morbidity and mortality in the high-risk population of children under five and mothers. Activities included development of health education materials for training Volunteers and counterparts in Zaire, Togo, Liberia, Central African Republic, Swaziland, Malawi, Mauritania and Mali.

Nutrition: The goal is to improve household food security. Strategies include integrating household food and nutrition objectives into Peace Corps health programs and training Volunteers and counterparts to assess household food and nutrition needs and to plan appropriate mixed gardens to enhance nutrition of families. Programs are operating in all Peace Corps regions.

Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT): Through this effort Peace Corps participates in or conducts seminars and training for Volunteers and host country counterparts in use of ORT. Work is underway to expand programming from eight countries to several additional ones.

SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT: Peace Corps has been involved in small enterprise development since its inception through cooperatives, credit unions and business advisory projects. Through Peace Corps' new emphasis on small enterprise development, efforts are being made to coordinate related activities worldwide, to provide effective training models, improve project design and develop programming guidelines.

WATER/SANITATION: Peace Corps operates water and environmental sanitation programs in 34 countries where more than 470 Volunteers are involved in 50 projects. Projects include construction and rehabilitation of potable water systems, hand dug wells, simple low cost water treatment systems, and irrigation system design. In essence these and other activities are designed to provide adequate quantities of safe water for human consumption, irrigation and sanitation purposes.

Technical training programs, collection of manuals and other information materials, and liaison with other organizations involved in these efforts are among this sector's responsibilities.

Program Areas:

SMALL PROJECT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SPA): In 1983 Peace Corps and U.S. AID created the SPA program to apply the unique resources of each agency to the support of self-help community projects.

Through annual SPA agreements signed by AID mission directors and Peace Corps country directors, funds are made available from AID to projects which are implemented and administered by the Peace Corps in that country. Each project may receive a maximum of \$10,000 from the SPA fund and must be completed within a year of its commencement. Funds must be spent on projects in the areas of food production, energy, competitive enterprise development, health and/or income generating activities.

A SPA project must be developed and carried out with a local community organization or group which is expected to make a significant in-kind or monetary contribution. No project may encourage or require U.S. assistance for continued support. To date 32 countries have established a SPA fund, which is limited to \$40,000 per country. This sector supports SPA projects by providing technical assistance, including in-service training, to Volunteers and the community.

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT (WID): In 1978 Congress amended the Peace Corps Act to require Peace Corps "to give particular attention to those programs, projects and activities which tend to integrate women into the national economies of developing countries, thus improving their status and assisting the total development effort."

WID is a broad-based concern which cuts across all Peace Corps programming sectors. The WID unit offers support to staff and Volunteers in making sure the WID perspective is considered in each country.

In FY1985 Peace Corps WID projects operated in 35 countries in all regions. The programs ranged from a health and nutrition education project for Fijian women; to a project to assist Nepalese women to secure government-sponsored loans to meet rural development needs; to

teaching women in Cameroon business, bookkeeping and accounting skills to be used in managing cooperatives.

Long-term program support by the WID office includes assisting in design of training materials to integrate women's concerns into a given country's development process; and building awareness of WID needs and ideas through contacts with other agencies working in the developing world.

A highlight of FY 1985 was attendance by staff and Volunteers at the Nairobi World Women's Conference. Follow-up to the conference will include publishing proceedings of the regional symposia held after the conference, as well as new WID efforts being developed for individual countries.

Training Support Division

Through the "Integrated Training System" this unit provides the regions and the field with training support materials and back-up including: a training philosophy, goals and standards, in-country management of training programs, training materials and manuals (including translation) and training evaluation systems.

This unit also is a focal point for coordination of all activities related to Stateside Training and contributes to the Training Resource Center by acquiring state-of-the-art materials on cross-cultural, language and technical issues. It also manages and directs training of the agency's overseas staff.

Information Collection and Exchange (ICE)

ICE is the central technical information resource for Peace Corps programs in all sector areas.

The Exchange strives to support programs in the field with the most relevant, up-to-date technical materials available. It collects information about successful Peace Corps efforts and shares them with Volunteers, staff and others working in development inside and outside the agency.

Working closely with OTAPS specialists and sources outside the agency, ICE has built up a series of over 120 manuals, reprints, packets and case studies based on grass roots experience. It has also compiled an extensive inventory of purchased publications and OTAPS-produced train-

VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES BY SKILL 1962-1985

| Year | Agriculture | | Skilled Trades | | Professional Skills* | | Education | | Liberal Arts | |
|------|-------------|----|----------------|---|----------------------|----|-----------|----|--------------|----|
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| 1962 | 310 | 11 | 113 | 4 | 394 | 14 | 394 | 14 | 1,605 | 57 |
| 1963 | 399 | 6 | 199 | 3 | 997 | 15 | 1,130 | 17 | 3,921 | 59 |
| 1964 | 403 | 4 | 202 | 2 | 1,512 | 15 | 1,814 | 18 | 6,148 | 61 |
| 1965 | 530 | 4 | 397 | 3 | 2,650 | 20 | 4,372 | 33 | 5,299 | 40 |
| 1966 | 467 | 3 | 311 | 2 | 2,333 | 15 | 3,733 | 24 | 8,712 | 56 |
| 1967 | 299 | 2 | 150 | 1 | 1,796 | 12 | 3,892 | 26 | 8,831 | 59 |
| 1968 | 691 | 5 | 138 | 1 | 1,935 | 14 | 4,147 | 30 | 6,912 | 50 |
| 1969 | 728 | 6 | 121 | 1 | 1,698 | 14 | 3,882 | 32 | 5,702 | 47 |
| 1970 | 856 | 9 | 285 | 3 | 1,807 | 19 | 2,854 | 30 | 3,711 | 39 |
| 1971 | 777 | 11 | 353 | 5 | 1,272 | 18 | 2,120 | 30 | 2,544 | 36 |
| 1972 | 758 | 11 | 345 | 5 | 1,448 | 21 | 1,999 | 29 | 2,344 | 34 |
| 1973 | 881 | 12 | 441 | 6 | 1,468 | 20 | 2,055 | 28 | 2,496 | 34 |
| 1974 | 965 | 12 | 321 | 4 | 1,770 | 22 | 2,494 | 31 | 2,494 | 31 |
| 1975 | 1,052 | 15 | 421 | 6 | 1,403 | 20 | 2,034 | 29 | 2,105 | 30 |
| 1976 | 894 | 15 | 238 | 4 | 1,370 | 23 | 2,086 | 35 | 1,370 | 23 |
| 1977 | 920 | 16 | 230 | 4 | 1,438 | 25 | 1,898 | 33 | 1,266 | 22 |
| 1978 | 1,202 | 17 | 283 | 4 | 1,839 | 26 | 2,263 | 32 | 1,485 | 21 |
| 1979 | 1,266 | 20 | 316 | 5 | 1,709 | 27 | 1,898 | 30 | 1,139 | 18 |
| 1980 | 1,319 | 22 | 360 | 6 | 1,738 | 29 | 1,618 | 27 | 959 | 16 |
| 1981 | 1,143 | 21 | 382 | 7 | 1,742 | 32 | 1,416 | 26 | 762 | 14 |
| 1982 | 968 | 18 | 377 | 7 | 1,883 | 35 | 1,453 | 27 | 699 | 13 |
| 1983 | 987 | 18 | 329 | 6 | 1,919 | 35 | 1,480 | 27 | 768 | 14 |
| 1984 | 969 | 17 | 285 | 5 | 1,881 | 33 | 1,709 | 30 | 855 | 15 |
| 1985 | 1,002 | 16 | 313 | 5 | 2,130 | 34 | 1,879 | 30 | 940 | 15 |

*Professional Skills include: business, engineering, health and social work

Source: Volunteer and Staff Payroll Services Branch (M/FM/A/VSPS)

ing materials for distribution to the field.

ICE publishes the ICE Almanac, a segment of the bi-monthly *Peace Corps Times*. The Almanac transmits to the Volunteers technical information and describes new program initiatives and materials available to support them.

Aided by stay-in-school students from Howard University and work-study students from Georgetown University, ICE also provides information and technical assistance in response to thousands of individual requests each year.

United Nations Volunteers

FY1985 marked the 14th year of successful cooperation between the Peace Corps and the United Nations Volunteers.

Like the Peace Corps, the U.N. Volunteer program is based on the belief that individual Volunteers, giving freely of their time, talents and goodwill, can contribute significantly to the lives of people in developing nations.

U.N. Volunteers (UNVs) are recruited from all U.N. member nations, and serve in development projects executed by U.N. agencies. These include the United Nations

International Children's Education Fund, the World Food Organization and the Food and Agricultural Organization. UNVs also serve in projects administered by host-country governments. They are agronomists, economists, engineers, foresters, teachers and technical specialists in over 70 other professional groups.

Through its recruiting centers and regional offices, Peace Corps recruits all Americans interested in serving as United Nations Volunteers. Peace Corps also pays the transportation and resettlement expenses for all American UNVs.

Volunteers must present appropriate academic credentials and have a minimum of two years' experience working in their specialized field. Nearly half of the Americans who have served as UNVs were former Peace Corps Volunteers.

During FY1985 Peace Corps recruited 16 U.N. Volunteers, bringing the total number placed since 1971 to 284.

At the end of FY1985, 36 American UNVs were serving in 24 countries, including 19 in countries where Peace Corps has no program—Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Qatar, Somalia, Turkey, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

A business advisor to women's groups in Costa Rica, here Margaret Kania (l) works with a sewing coop making hospital garments.



Office of Management

The Office of Management is responsible for the administrative support necessary for the Peace Corps to function effectively and achieve its mission in an efficient manner. Specific responsibilities include: Volunteer medical and special services; and agency administrative support, financial and personnel management. It is also responsible for internal audits and investigations and personnel security.

Volunteer Support

Special Services

Emergency situations involving Volunteers and helping returning Volunteers make a smooth transition into private life are the responsibilities of the Office of Special Services.

While the evacuation of Volunteers for medical treatment is the responsibility of the Office of Medical Services, other emergency evacuations are the responsibility of the Office of Special Services. The office, in conjunction with International Operations, reviews and maintains emergency evacuation plans to ensure the safety of Volunteers in the event of natural disaster or political unrest.

The office also arranges for temporary leave for Volunteers who must return home for a family emergency. A special services officer is on call during nonworking hours — nights, weekends and holidays — should an emergency arise in any of the Peace Corps' field posts or at home with Volunteers' families. The office also serves as the liaison between overseas posts and Volunteers' families when there are concerns about their well-being. These concerns may arise from situations of political unrest or natural disasters; or, due to delays in mail delivery, from communication lapses between Volunteers and their families. In FY 1985, the office made approximately 650 inquiries to discover if Volunteers were safe and well, and provided reassurances to their families.

In FY 1985, 142 emergency leaves were authorized for Volunteers with family emergencies; this is 14 more than the previous year. The office also provided in-office counseling to 135 Volunteers who terminated service early.

Service to Returning Volunteers

Providing career, life, educational, and readjustment counseling and information to soon-to-be and recently-returned Peace Corps Volunteers is a major function of the Office of Special Services' Returned Volunteer Services. In FY 1985, the office provided in-person and telephone counseling to over 2,000 returned Volunteers, distributed over 8,000 career information manuals and published the *Hotline*, a job and educational opportunities newsletter, every 10 days.

The office also encourages employers to hire and colleges and universities to establish special scholarships for returning Volunteers and to provide academic credit for knowledge gained during Peace Corps service. In FY 1985, Peace Corps coordinated an outreach to major international banks to inform them of the special skills of returned Volunteers. Also, the number of schools offering scholarships to returned Volunteers increased by four, for a total of 56; and 15 institutions granted academic credit for Peace Corps experience.

FY 1985 also saw the enrollment of ten returned Volunteers as the first Peace Corps Math-Science Fellows at the Teachers College of Columbia University in New York. This program is open to returned Volunteers who have completed two years of service as Peace Corps math or science teachers. The program, which leads to a Master's degree and teacher certification, was developed to attract and train a pool of mathematics and science educators to teach in the inner city schools of the United States and to upgrade the levels of mathematics and science instruction. The Xerox Corporation provided initial funding for this program.

In FY 1985, the office developed and distributed a "Skills and Interest Assessment." This do-it-yourself exercise for Volunteers completing service assists them in identifying their goals and abilities. The office completed production of a "Senior Volunteers Resource Manual," which addresses the special needs of returning Volunteers over the age of 50.

Medical Services

Several health studies were conducted in FY 1985 by the Office of Medical Services, the office responsible for the health of Volunteers during training and service. The purpose of these studies is to make Peace Corps service as safe as possible.

The first major study, which began in FY 1984, involved the prevention of a parasitic disease endemic to Central Africa and the South Pacific. All participants in the study volunteered after a thorough review of the protocol. In conjunction with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Peace Corps conducted "Double Blind" tests to determine if low dosages of the drug used to treat the disease can be used as a preventative measure. There are no known side effects of this drug at these dosages. Based on preliminary findings, the scientists report "cautious optimism." Final results should be obtained in FY 1986.

During FY 1985, the office continued, in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), a study of the incidence of malaria among Volunteers in Togo, and instituted studies of the causes of diarrheal illnesses among Volunteers in Nepal and the Philippines. The office also installed a computer-based disease reporting system to identify health problems and to measure the effects of remedial action.

As part of its health care mission, the office conducts pre-admission screening examinations. In FY 1985, the office conducted 7,000 screening examinations for potential Volunteers and provided immunizations and health training to 3,450 prospective Volunteers during the pre-

departure orientation. The office reviewed health care problems encountered by Senior Volunteers and worked with other organizations to ensure the applicant processing system accommodated these Volunteers.

For Volunteers, medical services are coordinated by Medical Officers located within their country of service. To ensure quality service, the office kept these Medical Officers abreast of the latest medical findings on current problems, diagnosis, and treatment. In addition, in each of the three Peace Corps regions, medical training sessions were conducted emphasizing Volunteer safety, crisis intervention and support counseling, assault counseling, and support needs of Senior Volunteers. The office also made support and evaluation visits to ten in-country Medical Officers.

The office is also responsible for coordinating medical evacuations of Volunteers. In FY 1985, actions were taken to increase the support provided evacuees and maintain contact with those who must be medically separated. It arranged for selected evacuees to receive services from infectious disease specialists at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and worked with the Department of Labor to ensure former Volunteers with severe injuries received counseling and rehabilitative services.

Management Support

New Computer Center

In FY 1985, the Office of Administrative Services opened the Peace Corps' new Computer Center located within the Department of Transportation Building in southwest Washington, D.C. and converted to in-house operation all agency computer applications previously processed using leased timesharing and intelligent terminals. This will realize substantial cost savings. Through a nationwide communications network, the new Center supports all domestic Peace Corps offices.

Financial System Improvements

In FY 1985, the Office of Financial Management began work to transfer the Peace Corps domestic payroll from the Department of Commerce to the Department of State's Consolidated American Payroll Processing System (CAPPS). This effort was undertaken as part of the Peace Corps response to OMB's Reform 88 initiatives. Upon completion in mid-FY 1986, this effort will consolidate, on a single payroll system, all Peace Corps American employees, worldwide.

In addition, the office began discussions with the State Department on integrating the Peace Corps accounting and financial management requirements into the Department of State's new Financial Management System. It is anticipated the development of this system will be completed in FY 1988.

Compliance

The Office of Compliance is responsible for auditing and investigating Peace Corps' many operations, resolving issues relating to the integrity of Peace Corps programs and

personnel, and assisting the Agency in implementing its Equal Opportunity Special Emphasis programs. Quarterly, the office informs Peace Corps offices of outstanding audit recommendations which affect their program areas. This active interest promotes accountability throughout the Agency.

In FY 1985, the office issued 30 audit reports containing recommendations for improving the internal controls of management and financial operations, both domestically and overseas; and a number of investigative reports which addressed matters ranging from theft to misuse of Government property. In addition, the office was involved in Equal Opportunity matters.

Conversion of Competitive Service Employees

The International Security and Development Act of 1981, Public Law 97-113, which separated the Peace Corps from the ACTION agency, required the conversion to the Foreign Service of all Competitive Service employees who were transferred from ACTION. The three-year grace period during which these Competitive Service employees were permitted to retain their General Schedule (GS) status expired December 29, 1984, and 91 employees were converted to Peace Corps' "time-limited" Foreign Service appointments.

The Forward Plan

In FY 1985, the Peace Corps continued to pursue the initiatives established in its Forward Plan during FY 1984. This document outlines the Agency's major initiatives providing guidance for the period FY 1985 through FY 1987. Specific achievements to fulfill the Forward Plan initiatives are described under the offices or areas of responsibility. For the period FY 1985 through FY 1987, the Agency has adopted the following eight major initiatives:

- 1) Expand Peace Corps programs in Central America;
- 2) Implement Africa Food Systems Initiative pilot projects in four countries;
- 3) Upgrade programming in primary health care;
- 4) Refocus income generation programs;
- 5) Strengthen capacity to identify policy regarding program trends;
- 6) Increase marketing and recruitment efforts for under-represented target groups;
- 7) Increase external dissemination and utilization of Peace Corps' technical resources; and
- 8) Emphasize development education within the 25th Anniversary framework.

Also covered by the Forward Plan are efforts to ensure programs in education meet host country needs. Scarce skill recruitment and training remain agency priorities, and the Peace Corps continues to work in partnership with host country governments and agencies.

The three-year period covered by the Forward Plan is a critical one for Peace Corps. Not only did the agency embark on highly publicized and extremely important initiatives in Central America and Africa, but this is also the period in which Peace Corps will celebrate its 25th anniversary.

Studies to Improve Management

The Office of Planning, Assessment and Management Information (PAMI) undertook a number of management and/or policy studies and initiatives during FY 1985. These included:

- Reviewing overseas posts' reporting requirements in an effort to eliminate redundant or unnecessary reports, and to reduce the length, frequency or complexity of these requirements.
- Studying an Overseas Assignment Inventory, to determine its validity, usefulness and cost-effectiveness in the agency's recruiting and placement functions.
- Distributing Overseas Computer Systems to most posts, acquiring back-up secondary systems for many countries and issuing the first financial management software system to help posts maintain and manage their fiscal responsibilities.
- Assisting overseas posts to include in their Country Management Plan and Budget submissions (CMPBs) the results of the Country Program Review/Monitoring Program.
- Completing the first part of the Peace Corps' Budget Operations Data System, including development of budget formulation and reporting requirements.
- Conducting on-going studies and activities in support of the Peace Corps' Trainee-Input Committee and Trainee Allocation system, to better manage the limited number of scarce-skill trainees available to the Agency.

PEACE CORPS BUDGET REQUEST, AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION FY 1962 - FY 1985 (\$ thousands)

| Fiscal Year | Original Budget Request | Amended Budget | Authorized | Appropriated (Including Reappropriation) |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------|--|
| 1962 | \$ 40,000 | \$ — | \$ 40,000 | \$ 30,000 |
| 1963 | 63,750 | — | 63,750 | 59,000 |
| 1964 | 108,000 | 102,000 | 102,000 | 95,964 |
| 1965 | 115,000 | 106,000 | 115,000 | 104,100 |
| 1966 | 125,200 | — | 115,000 | 114,000 |
| 1967 | 110,500 | 112,150 | 110,000 | 110,000 |
| 1968 | 124,400 | 118,150 | 115,700 | 107,500 |
| 1969 | 112,800 | — | 112,800 | 102,000 |
| 1970 | 109,800 | 101,000 | 98,450 | 98,450 |
| 1971 | 98,800 | 94,500 | 94,500 | 90,000 |
| 1972 | 71,200 | 82,200 | 77,200 | 72,500 |
| 1973 | 88,027 | — | 88,027 | 81,000 |
| 1974 | 77,000 | — | 77,000 | 77,000 |
| 1975 | 82,256 | — | 82,256 | 77,687 |
| 1976 | 80,826 | — | 88,468 | 81,266 |
| 1977 | 67,155 | — | 81,000 | 80,000 |
| TQ* | 25,729 | — | 27,887 | 24,190 |
| 1978 | 74,800 | 89,513 | 87,544 | 86,234 |
| 1979 | 95,135 | 100,358 | 112,424 | 99,179 |
| 1980 | 105,404 | 106,199 | 105,404 | 99,924 |
| 1981 | 118,800 | 114,656 | 118,531 | 105,531 |
| 1982 | 121,900 | 83,600 | 105,000 | 105,000 |
| 1983 | 97,500 | — | 105,000 | 109,000 |
| 1984** | 108,500 | 110,500 | 117,000 | 117,000 |
| 1985 | 115,000 | 124,000 | 128,600 | 128,600 |

* Transition quarter

**Includes \$2 million supplemental appropriations

Source: Office of Financial Management (M/FM).

Office of General Counsel

The Office of General Counsel provides all legal advice and services to the Director, staff, and Volunteers with regard to Peace Corps activities and new initiatives in the United States and overseas. The office's five attorneys represent the Peace Corps in negotiations and consultations with numerous U.S., international, and foreign agencies, both public and private. In addition, the office drafts, analyzes, and negotiates the terms of proposed legislation, regulations, and international agreements that govern or relate to the activities of the Peace Corps. The agency's attorneys also provide counsel to all Volunteer and Trainee Appeal Boards convened by the Office of Special Services.

In addition to serving the Peace Corps in response to inquiries from staff and Volunteers, the Office of General Counsel works with staff in the early stages of program planning to identify legal issues and complexities that may negatively affect them and explores alternative ways of achieving their programmatic goals. In order to serve this "preventive" legal support function, the office participates in general policy meetings chaired by the Director with Management, International Operations, MRPS and other Washington offices.

Office of Congressional Relations

The Office of Congressional Relations serves as the liaison between Peace Corps and the Congress.

Its responsibilities include: developing legislative initiatives and strategy; monitoring all legislation affecting the agency, its staff and Volunteers; providing guidance and information on legislative provisions, issues and actions; and responding to requests and inquiries generated by the Congress and its constituents.

During FY1985 the Office pursued several initiatives to increase Congressional awareness and knowledge of agency programs and Volunteers' work throughout the developing world.

One activity involved working with Members of Congress on 25th Anniversary events planned in their states and districts. Another was continuing to expand liaison activities with the Committees on Aging, Education, Budget, Science and Technology, and the Select Committee on Hunger as well as those with oversight and budget authority.

Whenever appropriate, Members of Congress are encouraged to publicize, through their newsletters and local news releases, information pertaining to Volunteers' efforts and Peace Corps Partnership activities involving their constituencies. The office continues to encourage Members of Congress to visit Peace Corps project sites during Congressional fact-finding missions to developing nations.

Scott Breidenbach (c) prepares to plant trees with Niger villager.



Office of Private Sector Development

The Office of Private Sector Development (PSD) serves as the focal point for channeling and coordinating gifts and contributions to the Peace Corps to further its overall purpose and mission in developing countries. It also makes available information to encourage education of the public about the world communities where Volunteers work.

Contributions from the private sector are one of the few measurable indicators of public support for Peace Corps' current and long-term goals. During FY 1985 the PSD office channeled the donation of both in-kind and financial contributions to support and enhance Peace Corps efforts ranging from recruitment to actual service projects all over the world.

Peace Corps Partnership Program

Since its inception in 1964, this program has provided thousands of Americans with the opportunity to participate in small-scale, urgently needed projects undertaken by Volunteers and their host country communities.

Coordinated by the Volunteer living and working in the overseas community, Partnership relationships can include a cultural exchange of letters, music, photos, local artifacts and other items reflective of cultures and lifestyles.

Donors who contributed to the Partnership program in FY1985 included 260 U.S. citizens, school groups, corporations, foundations, churches and returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

Examples of Partnership Projects are:

- Fiji: Boarding students at St. Bede's College received \$294 in U.S. Partner support to pilot test the growing of vegetables under plastic sheeting. Protecting the vegetables from the heavy rains while using the greenhouse effect to promote growth will improve diets and provide practical income for the school.
- Benin: An appeal by ten villages in the northwest region of Benin to build a well in each village was met by 15 different U.S. Partners nationwide: six schools, one business, and eight individuals. They raised \$9,780 for the effort.
- Ecuador: The villagers in Sacha, with the help of several individuals and a church Ladies Aid group in North Dakota, have constructed a rural health post which now can serve over 3,000 people. The project cost \$2,138.

In FY1985, 93 Partnership Projects were funded and 260 U.S. partners provided support of \$171,501.76 in cash and pledged contributions.

In-Kind Contributions

In-Kind contributions to the Peace Corps continue to grow, reaching a total value of over \$500,000 in two years. These donations of goods and services — which include medical supplies, educational materials, air, land and sea transportation — have been funnelled to projects where Peace Corps has Volunteers.

Examples of recent donations include \$100,000 worth of kitchen equipment and utensils to a hospital service canteen in Ghana; \$100 worth of nursing texts in Jamaica; more than \$3,650 worth of vegetable seed in Tunisia, and \$75,000 worth of lab kits for teaching science in all regions. Air, land and sea transportation valued at more than \$33,000 was provided through the In-Kind program.

Revision of Peace Corps policy and the establishment of procedural guidelines providing for handling of gifts promise significantly increased donations in the future.

Development Education

Educating Americans about the developing world is the Third Goal of Peace Corps. For the past two years, the Office of Private Sector Development has been researching ideas and testing programs that expand the use of the experience and expertise of Peace Corps staff and returned Volunteers in this process. The results are now being crafted into models to be shared with schools, civic groups, businesses and non-profit organizations, in conjunction with or independently of the Partnership Program.

Returned Volunteers — active in every walk of American life and in many instances leaders — are a natural and enthusiastic resource that can be tapped to supplement the agency's capabilities.

During FY 1985 the office has been involved in preparation for, and participation in, the series of Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Symposia in which development education is a major theme.

Private Sector Outreach

In addition to the Peace Corps Partnership and In-Kind Contributions programs, significant other gifts and donations have been received by other agency offices for a wide range of special needs and projects. An outstanding example is the service provided to Peace Corps by the Advertising Council. The agency assigned to Peace Corps by the Council has donated \$100,000 worth of its staff time and services. Actual production and media placement costs donated on behalf of Peace Corps amounted to nearly \$33 million.

Other private sources have also made clear their support of Peace Corps activities. They have underwritten receptions, provided needed materials, supplied transportation, donated equipment and services to special projects with an estimated value of nearly \$300,000 in FY 1985.

The Office of Private Sector Development has assisted in channeling and coordinating sources of support and acts as an information center for issues and data regarding private sector relationships.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs)

In addition to supporting a significant number of Partnership Projects over the years, RPCV groups have organized in their own localities and have remained involved with the Peace Corps mission. They have participated in local media events focused on international issues, formed and led discussion groups at the local level, and co-operated with local school boards as speakers in classrooms and at other student functions. The Private Sector office supports this effort with linkages of interested groups and RPCVs, and by supplying updated Peace Corps informational material.

VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES BY AGE GROUP 1962-1985

| Year | Under 26 | | 26-30 | | 31-50 | | Over 50 | | Average Age |
|------|----------|------|-------|------|-------|------|---------|-----|-------------|
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | |
| 1962 | 2,009 | 71.3 | 507 | 18.0 | 218 | 7.8 | 82 | 2.9 | 25 |
| 1963 | 9,190 | 79.4 | 1,580 | 13.6 | 637 | 5.5 | 168 | 1.5 | 25 |
| 1964 | 13,237 | 81.6 | 2,017 | 12.4 | 755 | 4.7 | 211 | 1.3 | 24 |
| 1965 | 11,264 | 85.0 | 1,369 | 10.4 | 423 | 3.2 | 192 | 1.4 | 24 |
| 1966 | 12,521 | 80.5 | 2,173 | 13.9 | 690 | 4.5 | 172 | 1.1 | 24 |
| 1967 | 12,872 | 86.0 | 1,646 | 11.0 | 285 | 1.9 | 165 | 1.1 | 24 |
| 1968 | 12,109 | 87.6 | 1,465 | 10.6 | 166 | 1.2 | 83 | 0.6 | 24 |
| 1969 | 10,687 | 88.1 | 1,140 | 9.4 | 158 | 1.3 | 146 | 1.2 | 24 |
| 1970 | 7,277 | 76.5 | 1,931 | 20.3 | 172 | 1.8 | 133 | 1.4 | 25 |
| 1971 | 5,512 | 78.0 | 1,060 | 15.0 | 353 | 5.0 | 141 | 2.0 | 26 |
| 1972 | 5,515 | 80.0 | 689 | 10.0 | 483 | 7.0 | 207 | 3.0 | 26 |
| 1973 | 4,830 | 65.8 | 1,542 | 21.0 | 661 | 9.0 | 308 | 4.2 | 27 |
| 1974 | 5,028 | 62.5 | 2,011 | 25.0 | 644 | 8.0 | 361 | 4.5 | 27 |
| 1975 | 4,391 | 62.6 | 1,754 | 25.0 | 526 | 7.5 | 344 | 4.9 | 27 |
| 1976 | 3,652 | 61.3 | 1,609 | 27.0 | 417 | 7.0 | 280 | 4.7 | 27 |
| 1977 | 3,267 | 56.8 | 1,639 | 28.5 | 316 | 5.5 | 530 | 9.2 | 28 |
| 1978 | 4,130 | 58.4 | 2,058 | 29.1 | 566 | 8.0 | 318 | 4.5 | 27 |
| 1979 | 3,715 | 58.7 | 1,791 | 28.3 | 525 | 8.3 | 297 | 4.7 | 27 |
| 1980 | 3,495 | 58.3 | 1,624 | 27.1 | 545 | 9.1 | 330 | 5.5 | 27 |
| 1981 | 3,174 | 58.3 | 1,492 | 27.4 | 523 | 9.6 | 256 | 4.7 | 28 |
| 1982 | 3,099 | 57.6 | 1,442 | 26.8 | 581 | 10.8 | 258 | 4.8 | 28 |
| 1983 | 2,999 | 54.7 | 1,497 | 27.3 | 685 | 12.5 | 302 | 5.5 | 28 |
| 1984 | 3,100 | 54.4 | 1,522 | 26.7 | 741 | 13.0 | 336 | 5.9 | 28 |
| 1985 | 3,306 | 52.8 | 1,627 | 26.0 | 828 | 13.2 | 503 | 8.0 | 29 |

Source: Volunteer and Staff Payroll Services Branch (M/FM/AVSPS).

Office of Public Affairs

This office assists the agency in increasing the public's knowledge and awareness of the Peace Corps' programs and policies.

Ongoing activities of Public Affairs include organizing press conferences, preparing and distributing press releases, speeches, arranging special events such as National Volunteer Week, publishing articles about Peace Corps Volunteers and projects, and coordinating preparation of the agency's Annual Report.

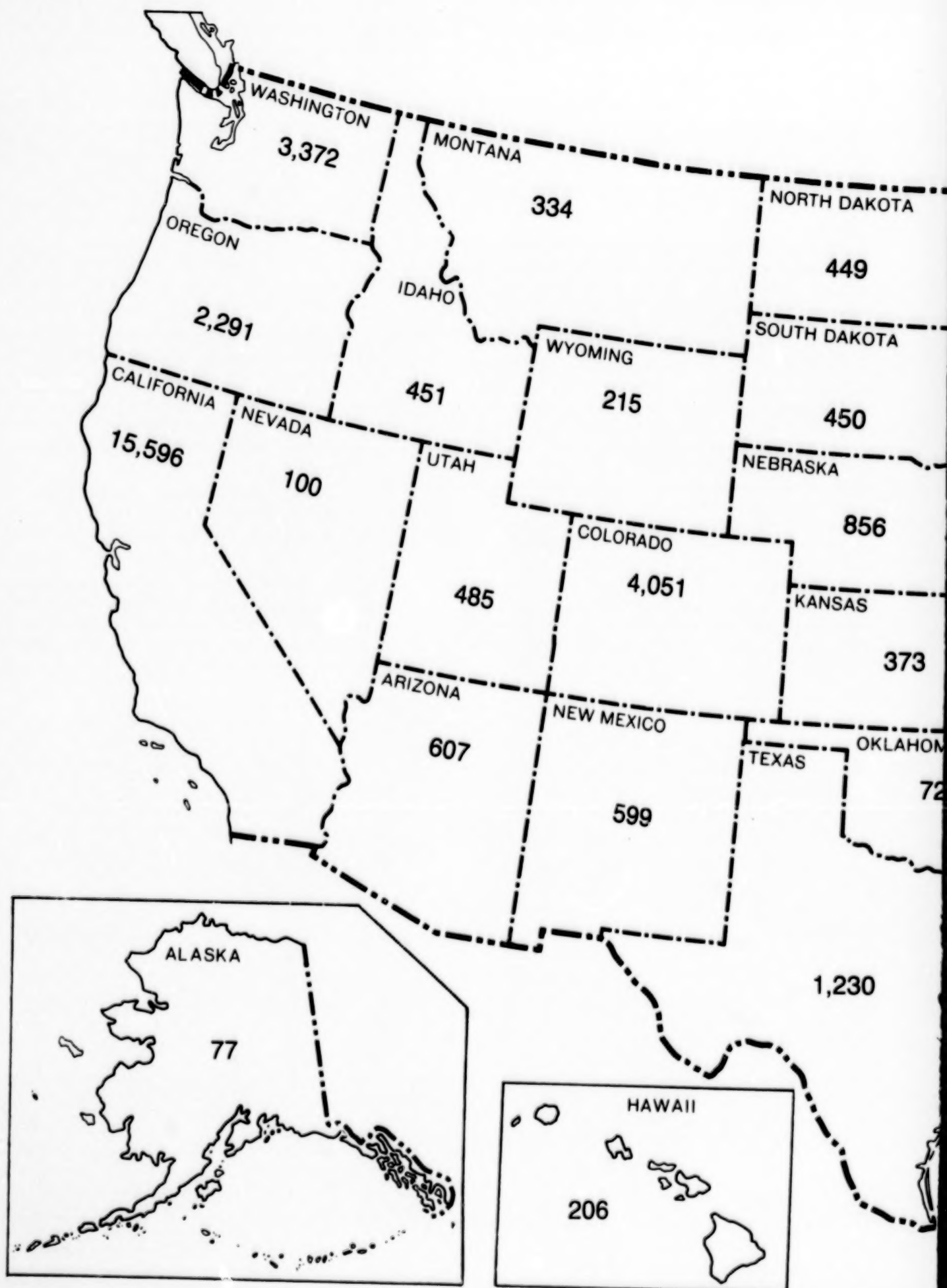
Preparation for the launching of the Africa Food Systems Initiative and Peace Corps' 25th anniversary observance brought special challenges to the Office of Public Affairs in FY 1985.

January 1985 saw Peace Corps Director Loret Miller Ruppe appear on national television to request the help of 10,000 Americans with agriculture-related experience and backgrounds. They would help begin a new initiative specifically designed to provide long-term assistance to the famine-stricken areas of Africa — the Africa Food Systems Initiative. The Office of Public Affairs was integrally involved in the preparation for this national appearance and fielded hundreds of calls and requests from the media for further information. National and local coverage in the print and broadcast media across the country was unprecedented.

The upcoming 25th anniversary was also a priority for the office. In cooperation with other offices, the staff helped with preparations for a series of nationwide symposiums to be held throughout FY 1986 with the aim of informing the public of the Peace Corps' work. In addition, the office made numerous contacts with media across the country informing them of special events and providing background information for stories and special articles they might produce.

Additional initiatives by the office were:

- Preparing for National Volunteer Week in April, 1985. Special events were a White House Rose Garden ceremony in which the President met and talked with 44 trainees on their way to work in famine-relief efforts in Africa and an Oval Office presentation to the three Volunteers of the Year.
- Coordinating a series of special events — including lectures, discussions and cultural activities — for Black History Month in February.
- Arranging for placement of Peace Corps recruiting posters and other visual displays at special events, such as the Live Aid Concert, prime-time television shows and feature films;
- Coordinating an agency-wide reception for the Asantehene, the cultural and spiritual leader of the Asante people of Ghana, on his visit to the United States; and
- Working with the Office of Congressional Relations to arrange a Capitol Hill reception in which Members of Congress and their staffs had an opportunity to review special displays and audiovisual materials about the Peace Corps.



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